

The book is rather a series of studies, more or less rendered into a continuous discussion. The different topics being dealt with, at times rather cursorily, again very exhaustively, apparently in accordance with the personal experience or inclination of the writer. Even in the more general descriptions, however, thoroughness is characteristic, but a certain scrappy character is nevertheless apparent. This gives the book an eminently descriptive tone, and as such it is highly valuable, particularly for clinical delineations. Were it more copiously illustrated it would prove even more valuable for this purpose.

JELLIFFE.

LES ECRITS ET LES DESSINS DANS LES MALADIES NERVEUSE ET MENTALES.
Par J. ROGUES DE FURSAC. Masson et Cie, Paris, France. Paul Hoeber, New York.

The study of pathological writing is not new, but it has advanced to the point when it might be made available as a means of diagnosis of mental disorders. Handwriting experts there have been for many years. As long ago as 1860 Marcé wrote extensively on the value of the handwriting from the point of view of diagnosis and legal medicine. Simon, Saglas and Jamin have interested themselves in the same field, and the recent excellent monograph of Köster is a contribution from the German psychopathic wards.

Köster's work has, however, all of the difficulties for the English reading public resident in the difficult German script, while many German readers are conversant with the printed language, the significance of the old fashioned script is lost. Fursac has not had to contend with this difficulty, for his French patients form their letters much as we do, and hence the numerous and excellent illustrations can teach a lesson even if their sense may not be understood.

In his introductory chapter Fursac discusses general considerations concerning pathological writing, dealing with both the form and method of its execution, as well as the sense of the ideas written. These he has, adopting Jaffray's nomenclature, designated calligraphic and psychographic, and the compound psycho-calligraphiques is a necessary consequent. Spontaneous, copied, dictated and applied writing are severally defined and discussed.

He then passes out special forms, discussing elementary troubles of calligraphy as evidenced in various psychoses. A third chapter discusses the alteration of graphic images; here the various confusions and dementias are characteristic. Defects of attention as shown in writing then follow; mental automatism, transpositions, additions, echographia, stereographia, etc., being severally illustrated.

Motor affections of writing are then taken up. The various calligraphic disturbances of paralysis agitans, exophthalmic goiter, chorea, multiple sclerosis, etc., being passed in review. The writing of the epileptic is taken up and then general paralysis. Chapters on the writing in the organic dementias, dementia præcox, alcoholic dementia, alcoholic intoxications, etc., are then described. Acute confusional states, delirea, manic-depressive insanity, neurasthenia, hysteria, the psychopaths are then discussed.

A final chapter on the drawings of insane patients closes this interesting and highly valuable volume. It is a very suggestive and scientifically valuable contribution to psychiatry.

JELLIFFE.

THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE. BY JAMES TYSON, M. D., Professor of Medicine in the University of Pennsylvania and Physician to the Hospital of the University; Physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital; Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia; Member of the Association of American Physicians, etc. P. Blackiston's Son & Co., Philadelphia.

To those familiar with the last edition of this work, the new fourth

edition will require no word of commendation. The same completeness of detail, the same availability and practicality of therapy, the same concise and scholarly presentation characterize its pages as formerly.

The most important changes in the text over the last revision are to be found in the section upon animal parasites, and are such as have been made necessary by the recent activity in this field. These parasites are taken up systematically by class and order, and a detailed description given of each with the various pathological processes which they are capable of producing. This portion of the work embodies the results of the latest researches and constitutes as complete a symposium on this subject as is to be found in English.

A commendable feature of the book is again the vigorous and explicit handling of the treatment and management of cases. In this respect the treatises on nephritis and diabetes are notably strong. It is interesting to observe in this connection that the author, though claiming small experience, is inclined to look favorably upon Edebohl's operation for relief of chronic parenchymatous nephritis.

Mention might also be made of the adequate consideration of the applicability of serum therapy wherever its use has been suggested.

The book in its present edition stands well to the fore in medical literature, and those who have appreciated its value will have no cause to be disappointed with the result of the last revision.